

SECRET  
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Estimated Value of Currency  
Coupons in Circulation

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- 70 4M/c  
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1. As of 27 June 1948, the head of the Central Administration of Finance had still not been informed officially of the number of special coupons which were printed, nor of the total value of the eastern-zone marks now in circulation.
  2. Sheets of special coupons were issued directly to such organizations as the People's Combines, the SED, the DFJ, etc. The sheets were not registered at the Central Administration of Finance, nor have the amounts been released as yet.
  3. The coupons were printed in the printing plants of the Taegliche Rundschau and the Berliner Zeitung, as well as in the printing plant of the Bibliographisches Institut in Leipzig and in a Dresden printing plant.
  4. The Central Administration of Finance was given approximately seven billion marks' worth of the special coupons for circulation. Of this amount, it is estimated that some 200,000 coupons, to the value of 2 million marks, reached the black market through theft and embezzlement.
  5. Prof. P. A. Maletin and half a dozen experts from the SMA finance section were constant visitors at the Central Administration of Finance during the days of the currency reform. They gave the impression that they too were unaware of the exact amount of new marks in circulation.

The experts in the Central Administration of Finance estimate that approximately twenty billion marks' worth of special coupons were issued.

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Comment: Although the above information has been rendered obsolete by the subsequent currency exchange, the report is considered to still be of interest.)

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